



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

REGION 6  
1445 ROSS AVENUE, SUITE 1200  
DALLAS, TX 75202-2733

November 17, 2003

Mr. Michael Schoch  
Regulatory/Environmental/Safety Manager  
Hilcorp Energy Company  
P. O. Box 61229  
Houston, TX 77208-1229

Re: Expedited Spill Settlement Agreement - Final Order  
Docket No. **CWA-06-2003-4577**  
Hilcorp Energy Company  
Stockstill Well No. 1 Flowline Leak, Murphy Lake O & G Field  
Sec. 24-T11S-R10E, St. Martin Parish, LA.

Dear Mr. Schoch:

Enclosed for your records is a copy of the fully executed Complaint and Expedited Settlement Agreement for the oil spill-related violations found at Stockstill Well No. 1, a Flowline Leak, Murphy Lake Oil & Gas Field, Sec. 24-T11S-R10E, St. Martin Parish, LA.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to call me. I may be reached in Dallas at (214) 665-8061.

Sincerely yours,

*Ted Palit*  
Ted Palit, P.E.

Response and Prevention Branch

Enclosure

9689309





# UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 6, 1445 ROSS AVENUE, DALLAS, TEXAS 75202-2733

## EXPEDITED SPILL SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

DOCKET NO. CWA-06-2003-4577

On April 17, 2003

Time \_\_\_\_\_

At: Hilcorp Energy Company, Stockstill Well No. 1 Flow Line Leak, Sec. 24-T11S-R10E, Murphy Lake Oil and Gas Field, St. Martin Parish, Louisiana

(Respondent) discharged 40 barrels of oil in violation of Section 311(b)(3) of the Clean Water Act (the Act), as noted on the attached FINDINGS and ALLEGED CIVIL VIOLATIONS FORM (Form), which is hereby incorporated by reference.

The parties are authorized to enter into this Expedited Settlement under the authority vested in the Administrator of EPA by Section 311(b) (6) (B) (i) of the Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1321(b) (6) (B) (i), as amended by the Oil Pollution Act of 1990, and by 40 CFR § 22.13(b). The parties enter into this Expedited Settlement in order to settle the civil violations described in the Form for a penalty of \$ 3,500.00.

This settlement is subject to the following terms and conditions:

EPA finds the Respondent's conduct is subject to the discharge prohibition of Section 311(b)(3) of the Act, as described in that statute and further described by 40 CFR § 110.3. The Respondent admits he/she is subject to Section 311(b)(3) and that EPA has jurisdiction over the Respondent and the Respondent's conduct as described in the Form. Respondent does not contest the Findings, and waives any objections it may have to EPA's jurisdiction. Respondent consents to the assessment of the penalty stated above. Respondent certifies, subject to civil and criminal penalties for making a false submission to the United States Government, that it has investigated the cause of the spill, it has cleaned up the spill pursuant to the federal requirements, and it has taken corrective actions that will prevent future spills. The Respondent also verifies that it has sent a certified check for \$ 3,500.00 payable to the "Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund" to: "OPA Enforcement Coordinator, U. S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 6 (6SF-R), 1445 Ross Avenue, Dallas, Texas 75202-2733." Respondent has noted on the penalty payment check "EPA" and the docket number of this case, "CWA-06-2003-4577."

Upon signing and returning this Expedited Settlement to EPA, Respondent waives the opportunity for a hearing or appeal pursuant to Section 311 of the Act, and consents to EPA's approval of the Expedited Settlement without further notice.

If the Respondent does not sign and return this Expedited Settlement as presented within 30 days of the date of its receipt, the proposed Expedited Settlement is withdrawn without prejudice to EPA's ability to file any other enforcement action for the violations identified in the Form.

After this Expedited Settlement becomes effective, EPA will take no further action against the Respondent for the violations of Section 311(b)(3) of the Act described in the Form. However, EPA does not waive any rights to take any

enforcement action for any other past, present, or future violations by the Respondent of Section 311(b)(3) of the Act or of any other federal statute or regulation. By its first signature, EPA ratifies the Findings and Alleged Violations set forth in the Form.

This Expedited Settlement is binding on the parties signing below, and is effective upon EPA's filing of the document with the Regional Hearing Clerk.

### APPROVED BY EPA:

Charles A. Gazda Date: 9/17/03  
Charles A. Gazda  
Chief, Response and Prevention Branch  
Superfund Division

### APPROVED BY RESPONDENT:

Name (print): Michael Schoch  
Title (print): MGR, REG/ENV/SAFETY  
Michael Schoch Date: 9/25/03  
Signature

### IT IS SO ORDERED:

Myron O. Knudson, P.E. Date: 10/28  
Myron O. Knudson, P.E.  
Director  
Superfund Division

ORREV.11/18/99 R6REV 5/10/01; 9/19/01;11/8/01;2/12/02

REGIONAL HEARING CLERK  
EPA REGION VI

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FILED

**CONCURRENCE ROUTING  
EXPEDITED SPILL ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM**


TYPE OF ACTION: Expedited Spill Settlement Agreement - Final Order

RESPONDENT: Hilcorp Energy Company  
St. Martin Parish, Louisiana

Docket No.: CWA-06-2003-4577

(6SF-R) James L. Graham  10/28

(6SF-R) Charles A. Gazda  10/28

(6SF) Myron O. Knudson  10/28

Return to:  
Robert F. Jones (6SF-RO) HIL